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EXAMINER

KANG, PAUL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2444

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/642,891	Applicant(s) PHILYAW, JEFFRY JOVAN	
	Examiner Paul H. Kang	Art Unit 2444	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1-2 and 4-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Horowitz et al., US Pat. App. Pub. No. US 2001/0013542 A1.**

3. As to claim 1, Horowitz teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Horowitz teaches a system and method of accessing personal account information of a credit card associated with a user over a global communication packet-switched network, comprising the steps of:

at a user location disposed on the network, resolving a machine-resolvable code (MRC) having a representation of the coded information contained therein and disposed on the credit card of the user, the a representation of the coded information having no personal information contained therein relating to the user or routing information over a network (¶¶ 0020-0021, 0024);

extracting a representation of the coded information from the MRC, the a representation of the coded information associated with routing information that is associated with both the

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personal account information of the user and a credit card company server having stored thereat personal account information of the user, which routing information, personal account information and credit card server information are not stored on the credit card (the MRC – the special transaction number and the routing number – is extracted from the transaction card; ¶¶ 0028, 0020-0021, 0024, 0027, 0030);

in response to the steps of resolving and extracting, obtaining the routing information to the credit card server associated with the extracted a representation of the coded information (¶¶ 0024, 0028);

connecting the user location to the credit card company server across the network over a determined route in accordance with the routing information (¶¶ 0024, 0028);

connecting the user location to the specific and unique credit card company server across the network over a determined route during the step of connecting (¶¶ 0024, 0028);

transmitting the extracted representation of the coded information to the specific and unique credit card company server over the determined route during the step of connecting (¶¶ 0024, 0028);

using the transmitted a representation of the representation of the coded information at the specific and unique credit card company server to determine the personal account information associated with the personal account information associated with the extracted representation of the coded information (¶¶ 0024-0025); and

returning the determined personal account information from the specific and unique credit card company server to the user location (¶¶ 0024-0025); and

presenting the information to the user at the user location (¶¶ 0024-0025).

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4. As to claims 2, 4-5, and 8, Horowitz teach the system wherein the MRC is an optical indicia, a barcode, wherein the optical indicia is used to extract the corresponding routing information and personal identification information, wherein a unique code is transmitted to a remote intermediate location, and returning a matched remote location information to the user (¶¶ 0011, 0020-0021, 0024-0025, 0028).

5. As to claim 6, Horowitz teaches a wireless scanner (Horowitz teaches a wireless PDA used to scan credit cards; ¶¶ 0011, 0020-0021, 0024-0025, 0028).

6. As to claim 7, Horowitz teach the use of a computer display at the user location (ATM; ¶¶ 0025, 0028).

7. As to claims 9 and 11, Horowitz teach a method for accessing personal information from a remote location on a network, as applied to claim 1 above, comprising the steps of:

reading at a user location on the network a unique information access code disposed on a portable access device that is carried by a user, which unique information access code is associated with routing information on the network to the remote location and also with personal information at the remote location of a user that is associated with the portable access device, wherein the association of the remote location with the unique information access code is unique to such unique information access code such that only that single remote location contains the

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associated personal information, wherein the routing information and personal information are not disposed on or in close proximity to the credit card (¶¶ 0020-0021, 0024, 0027, 0028, 0030);

obtaining the routing information from a database by comparing the unique information access code in a matching operation to a record in the database to determine if there exists in the record a pre-association between the unique information access code and at least one routing information and, if so, then allowing access to such matching routing information and accessing the remote location in accordance with the routing information (transaction data is transferred over the financial network and to the host system of the financial institution identified by the bank routing number, e.g. the network routing is inherently discovered by correlating the routing number to the network address of the server; ¶¶ 0020-0021, 0024, 0028);

transmitting to the remote location the unique information access code (¶¶ 0020-0021, 0024, 0028); and

at the remote location, receiving the unique information access code and accessing personal information associated therewith and forwarding the personal information back to the user location for viewing by the user (¶¶ 0005-0006, 0024-0025), the step of forwarding comprising:

sending from the remote location a request for personal identification after determining that there is contained in the database local to the remote location personal information associated with the unique information access code (¶¶ 0005-0006).

entering the personal identification information at the user location (¶¶ 0005, 0025); and

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in response to input of a personal identification information by the user, returning the personal information to the user location (§§ 0005, 0025).

8. As to claim 10, Horowitz teach the method wherein the network is a global communication network (§§ 0025, 0011).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. **Claims 3 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horowitz et al. as applied, in view of Perkowski., US Pat. No. 6,064,979.**

11. As to claim 3, Horowitz teaches the invention substantially as claimed. However, Horowitz fails to teach the method wherein the optical indicia is a bar code. In the art, Perkowski teaches using bar codes to easily input coded information. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have applied the known technique of using input devices, such as bar code scanners, into the ATM systems of Horowitz for the predictable result of enabling another type of input device.

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12. As to claim 12, Horowitz teaches the invention substantially as claimed. However, Horowitz fails to teach an intermediate location as claimed. Perkowski teaches the method wherein the step of accessing comprises the steps of:

in response to the step of reading, accessing an intermediate location on the network remote from the user location (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

transmitting the unique information access code to the intermediate location from the user location (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

the intermediate having contained thereat a database with associations between a plurality of unique information access codes and remote locations on the network (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

comparing the received unique personal access code with the stored personal access code (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

if a match is found, returning the matched remote location information to the user location (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);
and

utilizing the returned remote location information from the intermediate location to access the remote location (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the known intermediate device of Perkowski into the ATM system of Horowitz to improve it's system, for the predictable result of applying known

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techniques of distributed data computing to the ATM system. The distributed nature allows enhancements in flexibility, security, scalability and redundancy of the networked system.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

13. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

14. Claims 1-5 and 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borecki et al., US Pat. App. No. US 2002/0016749 A1, in view of Perkowski., US Pat. No. 6,064,979.

15. As to claim 1, Borecki teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Borecki teaches a system and method of accessing personal account information of a credit card associated with a user over a global communication packet-switched network, comprising the steps of:

connecting a user location to the specific and unique credit card company server across the network in accordance with a known URL (Borecki, Figure 2A and page 2, paragraph 0034-0035);

transmitting the account information to the specific and unique credit card company server over the network (Borecki, Figure 2A and page 2, paragraph 0034-0035 and page 3, paragraph 0039);

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using customer account information at the specific and unique credit card company server to determine the personal account information associated with the customer account information from the credit card company server, to the user location (Borecki, page 3, paragraph 0040); and presenting the information to the user at the user location (Borecki, page 2, paragraph 0034-0035 and page 3, paragraph 0040).

However, Borecki does not explicitly teach automating the steps of accessing said credit card company server. Specifically, Borecki does not explicitly teach:

at a user location disposed on the network, resolving a machine-resolvable code (MRC) having coded information contained therein and disposed on the credit card of the user, the coded information having no personal information contained therein relating to the user or routing information over a network;

extracting coded information from the MRC, the coded information associated with routing information that is associated with both the personal account information of the user and a credit card company server;

in response to the steps of resolving and extracting, obtaining the routing information to the credit card server associated with the extracted coded information;

connecting the user location to the credit card company server across the network over a determined route in accordance with the routing information.

In the a, Perkowski teaches a system and method for automatically retrieving information related to a commercial product by scanning an MRC, the coded information having no personal information contained therein relating to the user or routing information over a network (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 38-40).

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Perkowski teaches at a user location disposed on the network, reading a machine-resolvable code (MRC) disposed on a commercial product of a user with a reading device (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 38-40);

extracting coded information from the MRC, the coded information associated with routing information that corresponds to the commercial product information stored on a company server disposed on the network (Perkowski, col. 19, lines 12-55);

in response to the steps of reading and extracting, obtaining the routing information associated with the extracted coded information (Perkowski, col. 19, lines 12-55);

connecting the user location to the company server across the network over a determined route in accordance with the routing information (Perkowski, col. 19, lines 12-55).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the known the automated data entry and data locating system of Perkowski into the system of Borecki to improve it's system for the predictable result of applying known techniques of automated data entry and distributed data computing to the system. The distributed nature allows enhancements in flexibility, security, scalability and redundancy of the networked system.

16. As to claims 2-5, and 8, Borecki-Perkowski teach the system wherein the MRC is an optical indicia, a barcode, wherein the optical indicia is used to extract the corresponding routing information and personal identification information, wherein a unique code is transmitted to a remote intermediate location, and returning a matched remote location information to the user (Borecki, Figure 2A and page 2, paragraph 0034-0035 and Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4,

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line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26; and col. 19, lines 12-55).

17. As to claim 7, Borecki-Perkowski teach the use of a computer display at the user location (Borecki, page 2, paragraph 0034-0035 and page 3, paragraph 0040).

18. As to claims 9 and 11, Borecki-Perkowski teach a method for accessing personal information from a remote location on a network, as applied to claim 1 above, comprising the steps of:

reading at a user location on the network a unique information access code disposed on a portable access device that is carried by a user, which unique information access code is associated with routing information on the network to the remote location and also with personal information at the remote location of a user that is associated with the portable access device (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

accessing the remote location in accordance with the routing information (Perkowski, col. 19, lines 12-55);

transmitting to the remote location the unique information access code (Borecki, Figure 2A and page 2, paragraph 0034-0035 and page 3, paragraph 0039); and

at the remote location, receiving the unique information access code and accessing personal information associated therewith and forwarding the personal information back to the user location for viewing by the user (Borecki, Figure 2A and page 2, paragraph 0034-0035 and page 3, paragraph 0039);, the step of forwarding comprising:

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sending from the remote location a request for personal identification after determining that there is contained in the database local to the remote location personal information associated with the unique information access code (Borecki, paragraphs 0034-0035),

entering the personal identification information at the user location (Borecki, paragraphs 0034-0035 and 0039-0040); and

in response to input of a personal identification information by the user, returning the personal information to the user location (Borecki, paragraphs 0039-0040).

19. As to claim 10, Borecki-Perkowski teach the method wherein the network is a global communication network (Borecki, page 2, paragraph 0031).

20. As to claim 12, Borecki-Perkowski teach the method wherein the step of accessing comprises the steps of:

in response to the step of reading, accessing an intermediate location on the network remote from the user location (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

transmitting the unique information access code to the intermediate location from the user location (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

the intermediate having contained thereat a database with associations between a plurality of unique information access codes and remote locations on the network (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

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comparing the received unique personal access code with the stored personal access code (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55);

if a match is found, returning the matched remote location information to the user location (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55); and

utilizing the returned remote location information from the intermediate location to access the remote location (Perkowski, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 19-26 and col. 19, lines 12-55).

21. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borecki-Perkowski, as applied above, further in view of Brook et al., US Pat. No. 6,170, 746 B1.

22. As to claim 6, Borecki-Perkowski teach the invention substantially as claimed. However, Borecki-Perkowski does not explicitly teach a wireless scanner. In the same field of endeavor, Brook teaches a wireless barcode scanner (Brook, figure 1 and col. 3, line 6 – col. 4, line 41). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the known wireless barcode scanner, as taught by Brook, to improve the system of Borecki-Perkowski, for the predictable result of increasing user convenience and mobility.

Response to Arguments

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23. Applicant's arguments filed June 5, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants argued in substance that:

a. "Therefore, Applicant believes that the Examiner is constructing the claim in such a manner that the Examiner is of the opinion that the special transaction number corresponds to the MRC of Claim 1. Therefore, this special transaction number must be a number "having no personal information contained therein relating to the user or routing information over a network." If it were just a transaction amount and a transaction indicator, this could be the case although it is clearly not limited to such. In any event, Applicant is taking the position that the Examiner's construction of the claim reads the MRC onto the special transaction number...

"The second step of the claim requires that a representation of this coded information be extracted and that the coded information in the MRC be "associated with routing information that is associated with both personal account information of the user and a credit card company server having stored thereat personal account information of the user, which routing information, personal account information and credit card server information are not stored on the credit card." Thus, the MRC must have some association with routing information that is associated with personal account information and a credit card company server. (It is important to note that Claim 1 specifically states that the MRC contain the coded information and it is this coded information that is transmitted throughout the entire claim.) Thus, there must be some association between this coded information, i.e., the special transaction number and Horowitz, and the personal account information of the user and a credit card company server. The Examiner considers such to be the case by referring to paragraphs [0020]-[0021], [0024], [0027], [0028] and [0030]. The Examiner has provided no detailed explanation of how such is the case. [0020] and [0021] provide nothing more than an indication that a special transaction number is provided and used in the transaction. [0027] merely indicates how the special transaction number is created and how it is transferred to the magnetic stripe memory and that this basically decrements the internal memory. However, this does nothing more than provide an indication of the special transaction number. Paragraph [0030] provides an alternate way to encrypt the special transaction number. This is a private key/public key encryption technique. There is nothing in these six paragraphs cited by the Examiner that indicates that the special transaction number is associated with personal account information, since the bank routing number and account number of the user are utilized to access the account of the individual. However, the Examiner indicates that the personal account information is the special transaction account, i.e., the mirror account (56), and this may be one construction. However, there is no indication that the special transaction number is in any way related to a credit card company server. There is no reason for such, as the bank routing number on the magnetic stripe, apart from the special transaction number, directs the card to the bank and the user's account. Thus, there is no reason to have an association of the special transaction number with the account number and the credit card company server. However, if the Examiner is taking the position that the credit card company server is the financial institution, this presents a problem. In the next paragraph, it is stated that after the MRC is resolved and a representation thereof extracted, the routing information is "obtained" to the credit card server associated with the extracted coded information. There is no routing information that is associated with the special transaction number that, after the magnetic stripe is read, will be obtained. It is already obtained, as it is already on the card itself. It is important to note that the MRC specifically does not have routing information contained therein. If the Examiner is reading the claims such that the special transaction code is separate from the routing information, i.e., the bank identification number, Applicant believes that this is an erroneous reading of the claim. The claim specifically states that the card has code information contained thereon that does not contain routing information. Applicant believes that all the coded information that is utilized in the transaction would constitute the coded information. By reading the claim narrowly to just read on a portion of the coded information, i.e., the special transaction information, would be improper. Thus, proper construction of the claim is that no routing information be contained as coded information on the card itself. Such is certainly the case in Horowitz and, thus, Horowitz could not meet the limitation wherein the routing information was obtained in response to resolving and extracting the MRC from the credit card. Thus, Applicant believes that this

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limitation is not met. Thus, the next step wherein the routing information that is used to connect is not possible, as no routing information can be obtained utilizing the special transaction code...

"In summary, Applicant would appreciate the Examiner providing a more detailed explanation of how Horowitz is applied to the claims, such that Applicant can have a clear indication of what the Examiner considers to be the coded information or to be the MRC, i.e., is this the special transaction code or is it the account information that is contained within the special transaction code." Remarks, pages 8-9 and 12.

As to point a, first the claimed limitation "machine-readable code (MRC)" is interpreted to be the information read by an ATM from the transaction card, specifically the special transaction number and the bank routing number of Horowitz. See Horowitz, ¶ 0028. Contrary to applicant's reading of the special transaction number as argued above, the examiner does not believe the special transaction number and bank routing number contains "personal information contained therein relating to the user or routing information over a network" as claimed. Personal information, such as a user's name, address, full account number, etc. to identify the user is not stored on the special transaction number. The special transaction number consists of a PIN, a portion of an account number, a special character identifying the account as a special account, and the transaction amount. See Horowitz, ¶ 0024. This information is *associated with* personal account information, however, is not in itself personal information.

Furthermore, the claims recite a "routing information over a network." This limitation is interpreted to be a network address or the like. A bank routing number as disclosed by Horowitz, while identifying a financial institution, does not provide a "routing information over a network" or "routing information to the credit card server" as claimed. The system of Horowitz uses the bank routing number to obtain the routing information over the network to the credit card server.

b. "The primary distinction is that the Examiner in the prior rejection stated that it was obvious because the combination of the two is "for the purpose of enhancing the user friendliness of the system by

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automating manual data entry and automatic retrieving credit card information." The only difference is that now the Examiner indicates that it would have been obvious to combine the two in order to improve the Perkowski system "for the predictable result of applying known techniques of automated data entry and distributed data computing to the system." This seems to be an attempt to utilize the teachings of KSR. However, KSR requires that the Examiner provide a prima facie case and that is insufficient for the Examiner to merely make broad allegations with no support. Clearly, the Examiner has provided no support for such allegation. The Examiner has not provided any indication why one skilled in the art would find this to be a predictable result, the level of skill required in the art or any detail as to why such is the case other than just a mere broad ranging statement. Applicant believes that this is insufficient and the Examiner has not met the burden of proof of providing a prima facie case for such a conclusion." Remarks, page 12.

In response to point b, the examiner respectfully disagrees. One of the rationales of KSR is that applying a known technique to a known device ready for improvement to yield predictable results would have been obvious because a particular known technique was recognized as part of the ordinary capabilities of one skilled in the art.

In this case, the examiner has set forth in the Office action that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the known the automated data entry and data locating system of Perkowski into the system of Borecki to improve it's system for the predictable result of applying known techniques of automated data entry and distributed data computing to the system. The distributed nature allows enhancements in flexibility, security, scalability and redundancy of the networked system.

Conclusion

24. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul H. Kang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3882. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Paul H Kang/
Primary Examiner
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